

REMARKS

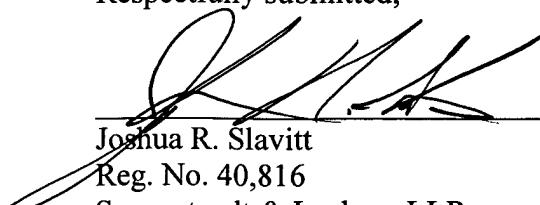
In the Final Office Action, mailed November 21, 2005 (the "Final Office Action"), claims 1-95 and 98-109 were rejected on a variety of grounds, and claims 96 and 97 were allowed. While applicants do not accede to the correctness of the Examiner's views regarding the patentability of the rejected claims, applicants hereby cancel the rejected claims, namely claim 1-95 and 98-109, without prejudice, and submit herewith a new Listing of Claims indicating the cancellation of such canceled claims in order to expedite the issuance of the allowed claims without further delay.

The Listing of Claims set forth above places this case in condition for allowance. All of the claims for which rejections had been maintained in the Final Office Action have been canceled, and claims 96 and 97 which had been allowed in the Final Office Action remain unchanged except for a correction of an obvious grammatical error in the third line section a)(ii) of claim 96.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing proposed amendments and remarks, applicants submit respectfully that the application is in condition for allowance and request respectfully prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance. If any issues remain, the undersigned invites the Examiner to seek resolution of such issues prior to the issuance of an Action. The Commissioner is authorized hereby to charge any fees or credit any overpayment associated with this Reply (copy enclosed) to Deposit Account Number 19-5425.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 22, 2006